From: vgerdjk@optonline.net@inetgw

To: Microsoft ATR, Red Hat

**Date:** 12/6/01 2:59pm

**Subject:** the micro\$oft pension plan

from red hat newsletter

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"Not long after the DOJ settlement, Microsoft announced it had agreed to another settlement regarding a separate class-action suit brought against the company by numerous parties that alleged overpricing of Microsoft products.

The settlement forces Microsoft to donate software, hardware, and services to America's poorest schools. Red Hat responded to the proposed settlement, pointing out that the settlement could simply introduce Microsoft to a market where they could further extend their monopoly. In its counter-proposal, Red Hat offered to provide free software to every school in America if Microsoft provided the value of its donation in hardware costs rather than its own software."

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the first thing i thought of when i heard that micro\$oft was giving hardware and software to poor schools was -- let's make micro\$oft a larger monopoly cause we at the DOJ have nothing better to do than take micro\$oft to court every few years

my school has over 500 computers and, even with an educational discount, upgrading the OS from micro\$oft every few years on all those machines is very expensive, so you, the DOJ, are going to let micro\$oft in all these poor schools that in a few years are going to need billions to pay for their OS upgrades, that we the taxpayers are going to subsidize, brilliant

everytime micro\$oft gives something away it only benefits micro\$oft, no matter how much they say that "we're only giving the consumer what they want," well i don't want to pay into the micro\$oft pension plan with my taxes

unless the DOJ gets micro\$oft to give the OS away for perpetuity, we the taxpayers will suffer, because, then, micro\$oft could hold the educational system hostage to any upgrade micro\$oft deems necessary at an enormous financial burden to the taxpayers

when a school system decides upon an OS for the computers, they are making a choice, but when the taxpayers are forced to incur the debt of the poorest communities in the country for the largest monopoly in the country, we have lost our freedom of choice could our government be this stupid, it looks like it

who said? "the bigger the lie, the more people will believe it"